

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday 20th July 2014

The IRTS Website

The IRTS Website now shows the Terms of Reference of the Society's active sub-committees / working groups and their membership. The page can be accessed from the "IRTS Sub-Committees and Working Groups" button on the right of the home page. Anyone wishing to contribute to the work of these groups, or make suggestions relating to their activities, should contact the relevant group Chair by clicking on the call sign link on the page. Contributions are most welcome. www.irts.ie

Amateur Radio Licence Examination

Seventeen applicants sat the examination on 22nd May over morning and afternoon sessions. Fifteen of these passed the examination and the results were, as usual, issued quickly. This is the highest number that passed an examination since IRTS took over responsibility for the examination.

For those students currently studying for the next examination, tremendous resources are available on the IRTS website www.irts.ie/exam

The IRTS represents the interests of amateur radio operators both nationally and internationally. We rely on members subscriptions and encourage all new licensed amateurs and short wave listeners to think about joining the IRTS. Your membership and support is most welcome. Just follow the link www.irts.ie/join It's simple and easy.

ARRL Centennial

From Thursday to Friday last, July 17th to 19th, our colleagues in the USA, the ARRL, celebrate 100 years of their foundation, advancing the Art and Science of Radio since 1914. The celebrations took place in Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford. CT, USA. We send our heartiest congratulations to the ARRL.

It's also noteworthy that our President, Seamus EI8BP has travelled to the USA to be part of this historic occasion and to represent the IRTS. Whilst there, Seamus will make a special presentation to the ARRL and will also present to Brian Justin, WA1ZMS, the Brendan Medal. www.irts.ie/brendan

First Signals Heard from UKube-1

Following its July 8 launch from Kazakhstan, UKube-1 -- the UK Space Agency's first CubeSat -- has been heard around the world. UKube-1 "hosts" FUNcube-2 which will include a 400 mW inverting SSB/CW transponder (70cm up/2m down), with a CW beacon on 145.840 MHz. The transponder is not yet active. The FUNcube project is aimed at supporting science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) initiatives now underway in the US, the UK, and elsewhere. The target audience is primary and secondary school students. Further information on www.amsat-uk.org

Hurdy Gurdy Museum on the BBC

The Hurdy Gurdy Museum is featuring on the BBC News website. The link is as follows bbc.in/1194sV9

The Shannon Basin & The Galway Radio Club

The Shannon Basin & the Galway Radio Club, will be taking part in the IOTA Contest 2014, from Inishbofin Island EU-121 on 26 & 27th July with the call sign EJ3Z.

ComReg 5 Year Amateur Radio Licence Notification

Process

In June 2009 ComReg introduced a new Amateur Station Licensing scheme under the Wireless Telegraphy (Amateur Station Licence) Regulations 2009. Under this scheme Amateur Station licences are granted for the lifetime of the licensee with a condition that the licensee make a return to ComReg each and every five years to confirm whether the details of the licence are correct.

ComReg have commenced notifying any licensees who have held their licences for 5 years, that their licence detail confirmation is required and informing them how to comply with this licence condition.

Correspondence will issue approximately 2 months before the anniversary of the issue of the licence.

Correspondence will issue via email for those who have registered an email address

with ComReg and by post for all others. The correspondence will provide detailed instructions to each licensee on how to make their returns which must be done via ComReg's elicensing website and as such will require all licensees to provide a valid email address.

All queries in relation to this process should be sent to licensing/at/comreg/dot/ie.

DX News

Flavio IW2NEF will operate from Zanzibar from 22 July until 6 August. He has applied for the callsign 5H1NE and will be QRV on SSB only. QSL Manager is IK2DUW.

Michael DB5MH will travel in Greenland from 25 – 30 July. He will be active as OX/DB5MH from the main island of Greenland (IOTA NA-018) and also from Sukkertoppen Island of the south-west coast (IOTA NA-220).

Tim VE6SH will be on the Caribbean island of Antigua and signing V29SH from 26 July – 8 August. He will focus on 20, 17 and 12m and QSLs go direct to his home call. Tim is President of IARU.

Prefix hunters will be interested in the special event station GA14CG which will be on the air from 21 July – 3 August to celebrate the Commonwealth Games. The station is being hosted by the Stirling and District Amateur Radio Society.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

The South Eastern Amateur Radio Group will be QRV as EI2WRC/P from the Inistioge Vintage Rally which takes place in Inistioge, Co. Kilkenny on Sunday 3rd of August (weather permitting). This is always a great event which draws large numbers of people each year. There will be vintage cars, tractors, motorcycles and loads of other vintage related vehicles. SEARG will be there with a station in operation displaying the hobby of amateur radio. See www.searg.com for more details.

Ireland's oldest city, Waterford is this year celebrating its 1100th birthday. In line with the many festivities and events that will be run to celebrate the anniversary, South Eastern Amateur Group will run the special event call-sign EI1100WD until the end of the year from various locations. Activity will be on various bands and modes (mainly HF) and members wishing to activate the call from their home location may do so by sending an e-mail to Mark Wall (EI7IS) on [markwall /at/ Vodafone.ie](mailto:markwall/at/vodafone.ie) or phone 087 630 2026 stating the proposed days and times of the activation. Details will

be posted on www.searg.com and also on the SEARG Facebook page.

The July meeting of the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group will take place in the Roanmore Social and Sports Centre, Cleaboy Road, Waterford on Monday night the 28th of July at 8.30 p.m. This meeting will be preceded by a committee at 8.00 p.m. sharp. New members and anyone interested in learning more about amateur radio are very welcome to attend.

IRTS 2m Contest 2014

The IRTS 2m contest this year takes place on Sunday August 24th and the closing date for the submission of completed logs is September 7th. Full details are available on www.irts.ie/contests

Items for inclusion in next week's Radio News can be submitted via e-mail to "newsteam /at/ irts / dot / ie" for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Urgent news items for the radio news may be telephoned to the radio news editor, Aidan, EI7JC on 085 7100511.

Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Thursday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

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